

## ABSTRACT

A spare area 12 is divided into partial spare areas 12A to 12D, and a defect list 15 is divided into partial defect lists 15A to 15D, with the partial spare areas 12A to 12D corresponding to the partial defect lists 15A to 15D, respectively. When a defect is detected, only the partial defect list updated by the detection is recorded into the defect management area of a recording medium 10.